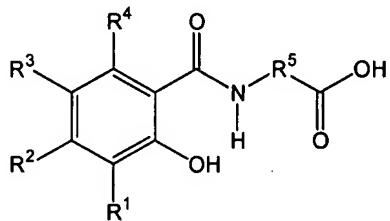


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims so that they read as follows:

1. (Original): A disodium salt of a delivery agent having the formula



wherein

R¹, R², R³, and R⁴ are independently hydrogen, -OH, -NR⁶R⁷, halogen, C₁-C₄ alkyl, or C₁-C₄ alkoxy;

R⁵ is a substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₁₆ alkylene, substituted or unsubstituted C₂-C₁₆ alkenylene, substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₁₂ alkyl(arylene), or substituted or unsubstituted aryl(C₁-C₁₂ alkylene); and

R⁶ and R⁷ are independently hydrogen, oxygen, or C₁-C₄ alkyl.

2. (Original): The disodium salt of claim 1, wherein the delivery agent is *N*-(5-chlorosalicyloyl)-8-aminocaprylic acid.

3. (Original): The disodium salt of claim 1, wherein the delivery agent is *N*-(10-[2-hydroxybenzoyl]amino)decanoic acid.

4. (Original): The disodium salt of claim 1, wherein the delivery agent is sodium *N*-(8-[2-hydroxybenzoyl]amino)caprylic acid.

5. (Original): An ethanol solvate of the disodium salt of claim 1.

6. (Original): The ethanol solvate of claim 5, wherein the delivery agent is *N*-(5-chlorosalicyloyl)-8-aminocaprylic acid.

7. (Original): The ethanol solvate of claim 5, wherein the delivery agent is *N*-(10-[2-hydroxybenzoyl]amino)decanoic acid.

8. (Original): The ethanol solvate of claim 5, wherein the delivery agent is sodium *N*-(8-[2-hydroxybenzoyl]amino)caprylic acid.

9. (Original): A monohydrate of the disodium salt of claim 1.

10. (Original): The monohydrate of claim 9, wherein the delivery agent is *N*-(5-chlorosalicyloyl)-8-aminocaprylic acid.

11. (Original): The monohydrate of claim 9, wherein the delivery agent is *N*-(10-[2-hydroxybenzoyl]amino)decanoic acid.

12. (Original): The monohydrate of claim 9, wherein the delivery agent is sodium *N*-(8-[2-hydroxybenzoyl]amino)caprylic acid.

13. (Original): A composition comprising at least about 50% by weight of the disodium salt of claim 1, based upon 100% total weight of delivery agent and salts thereof in the composition.

14. (Original): The composition of claim 13, wherein the composition comprises at least about 90% by weight of the disodium salt, based upon 100% total weight of delivery agent and salts thereof in the composition.

15. (Original): A composition comprising:

(a) the disodium salt of claim 1, ethanol solvate thereof, or monohydrate thereof; and

(b) at least one active agent.

16. (Original): The composition of claim 15, wherein the composition comprises at least about 50% by weight of the disodium salt, based upon 100% total weight of delivery agent and salts thereof in the composition.

17. (Original): The composition of claim 16, wherein the composition comprises at least about 90% by weight of the disodium salt, based upon 100% total weight of delivery agent and salts thereof in the composition.

18. (Original): The composition of claim 15, wherein the composition comprises at least about 90% by weight of the monohydrate, based upon 100% total weight of hydrate of the disodium salt of the delivery agent in the composition.

19. (Original): The composition of claim 15, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of growth hormones; human growth hormones; recombinant human growth hormones; bovine growth hormones; porcine growth hormones; growth hormone-releasing hormones; interferons; α -interferon; β -interferon; γ -interferon; interleukin-1; interleukin-2; insulin; porcine insulin; bovine insulin; human insulin; human recombinant insulin; insulin-like growth factor; IGF-1; heparin; unfractionated heparin; heparinoids; dermatans; chondroitins; low molecular weight heparin; very low molecular weight heparin; ultra low molecular weight heparin; calcitonin; salmon calcitonin; eel calcitonin; human calcitonin; porcine calcitonin; erythropoietin; atrial natriuretic factor; antigens; monoclonal antibodies; somatostatin; protease inhibitors; adrenocorticotropin; gonadotropin releasing hormone; oxytocin; leutinizing-hormone-releasing-hormone; follicle stimulating hormone; glucocerebrosidase; thrombopoietin; filgrastim; prostaglandins; cyclosporin; vasopressin; cromolyn sodium;

sodium chromoglycate; disodium chromoglycate; vancomycin; desferrioxamine; parathyroid hormone; fragments of parathyroid hormone; antimicrobials; anti-fungal agents; vitamins; analogs, fragments, mimetics and polyethylene glycol-modified derivatives of these compounds; and any combination thereof.

20. (Original): The composition of claim 15, wherein the active agent is selected from the group consisting of heparin and calcitonin.

21. (Original): A dosage unit form comprising:

- (a) the composition of claim 15; and
- (b)
 - (i) an excipient,
 - (ii) a diluent,
 - (iii) a disintegrant,
 - (iv) a lubricant,
 - (v) a plasticizer,
 - (vi) a colorant,
 - (vii) a dosing vehicle, or
 - (viii) any combination thereof.

22. (Original): A solid dosage unit form comprising a lyophilized mixture comprising

- (a) the disodium salt of claim 1; and
- (b) at least one active agent.

Claims 23-28 (Canceled)

29. (New): A method for administering salmon calcitonin to an animal in need thereof, the method comprising administering orally to the animal a composition comprising:

- (a) N-(5-chlorosalicyloyl)-8-aminocaprylic acid, wherein N-(5-chlorosalicyloyl)-8-aminocaprylic acid comprises at least about 96% by weight of the disodium salt of N-(5-chlorosalicyloyl)-8-aminocaprylic acid; and
- (b) salmon calcitonin.